Title of position sought: Senior Research Analyst (Threat Emulation)
Position requisition number: RQN032

Charles Eduardo Snyder

5921 Edgehill Court ◊ Alexandria, Virginia 22303 ◊ 814.746.0531 ◊ snyder.charles.e@gmail.com

Dear VT-ARC Staffing Office:

Exploring Virginia Tech's website, I discovered VT's co-located research and development organizations—which included a link to the Virginia Tech Applied Research Corporation. VT-ARC's focus on innovation and collaboration, makes it an organization that I want to be a part of. Writing to apply for the Senior Research Analyst (Threat Emulation) position, I am very interested to learn about VT-ARC's approach to fundamental and applied research.

Specific to the responsibilities in the job description: I have worked as a Research Staff Member at the Institute for Defense Analyses for the last eight years. In my day-to-day work, I use a suite of tools to quantitatively assess chemical and biological threats—from transport and dispersion simulation to infectious disease modeling. I have also used such modeling and simulation tools to assess risk of advanced threat agents—feeding qualitative assessments of such agents. I continuously learn about and test emerging tools or concepts to be well postured to answer research questions.

My current work requires the production of unbiased analytic products, typically produced through the coordination of a multi-disciplinary team. And simply performing analysis is of little value if not well-communicated to the sponsor. In both team coordination and sponsor interaction, I push for the critical and appropriate use of models. In my case, this means using models not to fain some predictive outcome, but to help bring scope to a complex problem, give direction to sponsor decisions, and discover knowledge gaps. Often, the most valuable output to a sponsor is not the specific data output from the analysis, but rather the speculative insights and questions spawned during the analysis process.

Of course my work with DoD and DHS has required sponsor engagement to communicate interim and final results. Sharing knowledge is a highlight of my work—not just to sponsors but also internally. One aspect of my current job that I expect to extend to work at VT-ARC is strong collaboration between staff. I greatly value and take advantage of others' experience. I also enjoy mentoring new staff and research assistants.

Below, I have explicitly provided the administrative cover letter application requirements for processing convenience. I hope to discuss opportunities at VT-ARC soon.

Sincerely,

Charles Snyder

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For ease of access, the following provides the required cover letter content:

1. Title of position sought and the Position Requisition Number listed in the announcement
   RQN032 – Senior Research Analyst (Threat Emulation)

2. Contact information: Full name, address, phone number and email address
   Charles Snyder
   5921 Edgehill Court
   Alexandria VA, 22303
   Phone: 814.746.0531
   snyder.charles.e@gmail.com

3. Availability date
   April 2017, but flexible

4. Whether or not you are a citizen of the United States (optional for positions that do not require a security clearance – see Security Requirements above)
   U.S. citizen

5. Whether or not you hold a security clearance (and if so, what level/access and date of last investigation)
   Yes, I hold an active SECRET clearance, last investigated on 10/14/08

6. Current or last salary and desired salary
   Current salary: 130K (11% pension)
   Desired: negotiable

7. Education
   BS Chemical Engineering from Case Western Reserve University;
   PhD Chemical Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University

8. Please describe where/how you first heard of this position, e.g., Google search to our website, a friend, LinkedIn, professor's referral, trade association ad, etc.
   Exploring Virginia Tech's website led me to a link—co-located research and development organizations—which included a link to the Virginia Tech Applied Research Corporation. Intrigued by the VT-ARC website, I explored the career opportunities listed in the website.

9. Why you feel you would be a good fit for VT-ARC as well as this specific position
   (see cover letter body)

10. Any additional comments you deem appropriate (optional)
    (see cover letter body)

11. Your signature
    (see cover letter body)